

TSA Travel Tips

TSA screens nearly 1.8 million passengers every day at more than 450 airports nationwide. TSA is committed to helping passengers understand the security screening process in order to improve their travel experience.

Prior to airport arrival, here is what travelers need to know:

Prohibited Items

For the safety and security of the traveling public, TSA, FAA and airlines prohibit certain items from being brought onto airplanes in carry-on and checked baggage. TSA's website features a detailed prohibited items list under the traveler information and the "Can I Bring...?" tool found



on tsa.gov. Even if an item is generally permitted, it may be subject to additional screening or not allowed through the checkpoint if it triggers an alarm during the screening process, appears to have been tampered with or poses other security concerns.



3-1-1 Rule

Liquids, aerosols, gels, creams and pastes, in limited quantities, are safe to bring in carry-on baggage and must comply with the following rules:

- 3.4 ounces or less for liquids, gels, aerosols, creams and pastes.
- 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag to hold the liquids.
- 1 bag per passenger placed in screening bin.

TSA Contact Center

The TSA Contact Center is available to answer questions about traveling through TSA security, including checkpoint or checked baggage screening.

Weekdays

8 a.m. - 11 p.m. ET

Weekends/Holidays

9 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET

Email

TSA-ContactCenter@tsa.dhs.gov

Phone

1-866-289-9673

Talk to TSA

Travelers may also provide feedback or request information by using the Talk to TSA online inquiry form at

apps.tsa.dhs.gov/talktotsa

Medically required liquids such as baby formula and food, breast milk and medications are allowed in excess of 3.4 ounces and must be declared to a TSA officer at the beginning of the screening process.

Acceptable IDs

Adult travelers (18 and over) are required to show a valid U.S. federal or state-issued photo ID in order to be allowed to go through the security checkpoint and onto their flight. Travelers who do not have an ID may still be allowed to travel by providing additional information about themselves. Passengers who are cleared through this process may be subject to additional screening. Passengers whose identity cannot be verified by TSA may not be allowed to enter the screening checkpoint or onto an airplane.



"My TSA" Mobile App

"My TSA" is a mobile application that provides helpful information on the go, including which items are allowed in carry-on or checked baggage. There is also information on ID requirements, liquids rules and real-time operating status for U.S. airports from the Federal Aviation Administration plus additional travel tips. To access the mobile web version of "My TSA" on a mobile device, visit tsa.gov/mobile. Native iOS and Android versions of "My TSA" are available on iTunes and Google Play.

TSA Cares and Wounded Warriors

TSA Cares is a helpline designed to assist travelers with disabilities and medical conditions. Travelers may call to ask questions about screening policies, procedures and what to expect at the security checkpoint prior to traveling. In addition, TSA Cares facilitates the screening process for wounded service members and veterans including individuals associated with a wounded warrior program. Travelers may also request a passenger support specialist at the airport.



TSA Cares Weekdays

8 a.m. - 11 p.m. ET

Weekends/Holidays

9 a.m. - 8 p.m. ET

Phone

1-855-787-2227

Travelers who are deaf or hard of hearing may use a relay service to contact TSA Cares or can email TSA-ContactCenter@tsa.dhs.gov.

Screening Technology

TSA uses advanced imaging technology and walk-through metal detectors to screen passengers. Travelers have the option to request a pat-down as an alternative. Whenever possible, the pat-down will be performed by a same-gender officer.

Additional Travel Tips

- » Travelers are encouraged to check carry-on baggage before leaving home to remove prohibited items, such as firearms and knives.
- » When packing, de-clutter and organize carry-on baggage to facilitate screening.
- » Travelers are encouraged to arrive two hours before scheduled departure time.
- » Travelers are recommended to wear slip-on shoes to remove and replace their shoes quickly.
- » Pets must be removed from their carrying cases. The case must be screened through the X-ray machine. A leash will help maintain control of the pet but should be removed when carrying the pet through the metal detector.

